

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

## CLEAN FORM

Please ~~CANCEL~~ claims ~~29~~ – ~~33~~, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please ~~AMEND~~ claims ~~1~~, ~~34~~, and ~~40~~ as follows:

a1 1. (AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
identifying a product associated with a first rebate, the first rebate being redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a first entity associated with the first product;  
determining a second rebate associated with the product;  
offering to a consumer the second rebate in exchange for the first rebate;  
obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by the consumer at a retailer terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the first rebate; and  
issuing the second rebate to the consumer.

a2 29 34. (AMENDED) A method of processing rebates, comprising:  
identifying a first rebate associated with a product, the first rebate being redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a first entity associated with the first product;  
determining an alternative rebate associated with the product;  
accepting input indicative of a selection of the alternative rebate; and if selected, obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by a consumer at a retailer terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the first rebate; and  
issuing the alternative rebate to the consumer.

a3 35 40. (AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
identifying a product;

identifying a first rebate and a second rebate associated with the product, the first rebate being redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a first entity associated with the first product;

receiving an acceptance of the second rebate from a consumer;

obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by a consumer at a retailer terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the first rebate;

issuing the second rebate to the consumer; and

receiving a request from the consumer to redeem the second rebate.

*a3 cont'd*  
Please **ADD** the following claims 44 – 52: ✓ ✓

*a4*  
44. (NEW) A method, comprising:

determining a request to redeem a first rebate associated with a product, the first rebate having been mailed to a first entity;

determining an address associated with the request to redeem;

determining whether the address had previously been provided at a retailer terminal, thereby determining whether a second rebate associated with the product had previously been accepted, and

preventing the redemption of the first rebate if the address had previously been provided at the retailer terminal.

45. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and

a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;

the processor being operative with the program to:

perform the method of claim 44.

46. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a processor to:

perform the method of claim 44.

*sub  
b1*  
47. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and  
a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;  
the processor being operative with the program to:  
perform the method of claim 1.

*sub  
b2*  
48. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a processor to:

perform the method of claim 1.

*a4*  
49. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and  
a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;  
the processor being operative with the program to:  
perform the method of claim 34.

50. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a processor to:

perform the method of claim 34.

51. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and  
a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;  
the processor being operative with the program to:  
perform the method of claim 40.

52. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a processor to:

perform the method of claim 40.